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Shall We Raise Potatoes.

Throughout the whole of New England, farmers have planned to plant as large an acreage of potatoes as was planted last year. Indeed, in some instances it has been the avowed purpose to very largely increase the crop area planted. With this object in view, much land was plowed last fall for this season's potato crop. And we are now asking ourselves if we shall use it for that purpose or for growing some other, and perhaps more profitable crop.

The potato market is in a condition from which lessons may easily be learned. It passes without comment, that the wholesale price to the grower is below the point of profit.

No question but that last season's crop gave the country an oversupply of marketable tubers. With the present consumptive demands, an average yield without much rot from as large an acreage as was planted last year means more potatoes than the cities can use at profitable prices. With this acreage, the only chance for profit is from supplying some special trade or from a total or partial failure over a large part of the potato-growing sections of the country.

With these conditions before us, potato growing on an increased scale becomes a game of chance. Is it wise to take that chance and gamble with the potato crop? Can we afford to neglect some other crops which give a sure, though sometimes small, profit for the doubtful chance of making a big gain out of the potato crop?

It has not been many years since practically the same condition existed which confronts us now. At that time, the writer sold choice Hebron potatoes for twenty-five cents per bushel, and gave the sacks with the potatoes. Many sold for less or shipped on commission and received about twenty cents. The result, at that time, was to increase other crops, especially corn, to the neglect of potatoes. It now seems necessary to learn the lesson over again. It may be doubted if the dairyman who has a fairly good corn soil can ever afford to depend upon the potato as a money crop. His need for all the feed he can produce, and the uncertainty of making a fair thing out of potatoes, would seem to make it advisable for him to plant corn rather than potatoes. Even if his soil will not grow corn, it will pay better in the long run to devote the attention of the farm force to the grains and grasses. We have hardly begun to understand the possibilities of grass as a farm crop. The dairyman can scarcely afford to be carried away from his specialty by the success of some fortunate potato grower.

The general farmer, i. e., the man engaged in mixed farming, may well plan to grow some potatoes each year. He should have a well-defined system of work and stick to it regardless of the ups and downs of the market. As a branch of the business, potatoes will pay some profit most years, and occasionally there will be a season of good prices.

The man who is well adapted to making a specialty of potato farming and who is prepared to meet all the conditions and content with a small per-bushel profit, may well stay in the business.

There is one thing sure, which it will be well for all of us to remember, that is, if we can succeed in lowering the cost of production so that it shall average twenty-five cents per bushel, we shall, by that act, fix the average wholesale price at, or near, thirty-five cents. This is a profit of forty per cent. above cost. If farmers think the buyer will long stand more than that, they yet have some things to learn in business matters.

One of Maine's most practical farmers and successful dairymen sounded a note of warning two years ago, which, if it had been heeded, would have added thousands to farmers' incomes last season: "Don't be fooled with potato talk. Plant corn, sow grain, raise clover and feed cows. Let the market farmers and specialists grow the potatoes." This is sound advice today.

E. C. DOW.

Don't Overfeed the Calves.

As much harm comes from overfeeding calves as from feeding too little; this the writer has proved by experience. Having a fine, pure-bred Ayrshire heifer calf, which I was particularly anxious to do well, I let her suck the cow till she had a good start and was looking very fine. I then taught her to drink and she proved a good feeder and continued to grow.

After a little I began giving her sweet skimmed milk, which she drank with a relish for some time, having the amount increased gradually, but the increase was carried a little too far, and one day she refused her rations. No amount of coaxing

would induce her to drink for several meals and began to look very thin. After a little she began to sip a little new warm milk, and now after a week she will drink about a quart to a feed, but no more, and is very lank. As the calf is two months old this is a very small ration.

The calf has not scoured badly but simply seemed to have slackened of milk. I can attribute the trouble to no other cause than overfeeding. If any one knows any other reason for the calf refusing to drink, I should be very glad to hear it.

Rutland County, Vt. E. M. PIKE.

Improving the Corn Crop.

The testing of seed corn is very important and no farmer should plant seed of doubtful germinating quality. Good seed should give a test of ninety-five per cent. or above and show vigorous germination. When purchasing seed corn, the farmer should insist on its being shipped in the ear. It may be difficult to get it from our seedsmen at this time, but they must be educated to the fact that the scoop-shovel method of selecting seed corn is not the method desired by farmers. Practically all the seed corn will soon be put on the market in the ear, as the time has arrived when the corn growers will insist on having their seed corn shipped in this way.

The greatest immediate improvement in the corn crop will probably be brought about by grading up promising varieties already grown within our State. By testing other varieties that seem especially adapted to our soil and climate, we may secure some standard varieties that will be of great value to our farmers a few years hence.

The greatest advancement in corn growing in other States has been brought about by the individual farmer planting from year to year the same variety of corn and practicing right selection of seed ears. It seems advisable for the farmer to have a portion of the corn field for his seed patch. This may be one of several acres, but must be that portion where extra care has been exercised in the selection of seed. From time to time during the growing period, the farmer should carefully study the plants of this portion of the field, remove or detassel the barren stalks, and note the uniformity of stand and character of the plants in general. As the time the husks begin to turn yellow, if the farmer will occasionally go through his seed patch, and by tying a string around each ear he desires he can select ears of early maturity and at the same time study the character of the stalk and mark ears only that grow upon vigorous stalks with medium shanks and having other desirable characteristics. He may desire to grow a good fodder corn, as well as grain-producing corn, hence should pay considerable attention to the leafiness of the plant. Some farmers make a mistake by going into the field and picking the early ears and retaining them for seed. The ear should merely be marked and then left until fully ripened. It can then be distinguished from the other ears by the string previously tied to it.

By selecting each year from our seed patch one or two hundred ears in this manner, supplemented by the test for uniformity and high oil and protein content, we will have valuable corn for our seed patch the following year. The corn for the general crop should be also selected from that portion of the field that has been planted with this carefully selected seed, but we do not need to spend so much time on the selection of that seed as on that which we desire to plant for our special seed patch.—Prof. R. A. MOORE, Madison, Wis.

Drainage a Simple Task.

The oft-repeated remark by many farmers during seasons of extreme moisture, "I know I ought to lay a good many tile on my farm, but somehow I don't get around to it, and the fact is there is no professional ditcher one can hire," is heard from time to time and especially during a flooded season like the present. My good friends don't look for a "professional," for I have learned that only ordinary intelligence is required, or that possessed by any level-headed farmer.

Makes a beginning; select a portion of some field needing work of this kind, where your horses, farming implements and yourself have often found it difficult to pass, locate the desired outlet, line out the direction of the ditch you wish to construct, beginning at the outlet. Yourself and the ordinary farm help, supplied with the proper tools, consisting of a regular ditching spade, with long, narrow blade, one or two long-handled shovels, a long-handled, light, narrow shovel for cleaning out and grading bottom of ditch, and an ordinary pick is all that is required for doing perfect work. Where the fall is plainly visible (and for a beginner such a condition is preferable), no level is required. A regular ditching plow has been found to be a great labor-saving implement in constructing a ditch in hard, dry ground. With four horses attached to a long, strong overmow, two horses on each side of the ditch, the work can be expedited with much less expenditure of muscular labor.

The ditch should not be less than 24 feet deep, even more would secure a greater drainage. Having finished the ditch, making close joints as possible. A light covering with the clayey subsoil is the only hard labor called for. With two horses attached to an ordinary farm plow, the remainder of the ditch can be filled in a short time. One having witnessed the wonderful transformation of unproductive and water portions of the farm into that which enables it to produce an abundance year after year, and that without the aid of unusual fertilizing material required on other portions of the

farm, should be sufficient incentive to continue the work indefinitely as convenience and conditions demand.

IRVING D. COOK.
Genesee County, N. Y.

Fertility in Cottonseed.

Cottonseed meal is used quite extensively in some sections of the country as a fertilizer. A good grade meal will carry about 6.8 per cent. nitrogen, 3.9 per cent. phosphoric acid and 1.8 per cent. potash. Based upon the valuations that will be used by New England experiment stations in 1905 for computing the value of commercial fertilizers, a meal analyzing as above will be worth about \$29 a ton as a fertilizer. Notwithstanding its high value when used directly in this way it will usually be found more economical to use it as a food for stock and to apply the resulting manure to the land. When used thus, from eighty to ninety-five per cent. of the nitrogen and phosphoric acid and practically all the pot-

ash will be contained in the manure.—J. M. Bartlett, Experiment station, Penobscot County, Me.

A Fruit and Dairy Section.

The Connecticut river valley of Hampshire County is quite an early section of the State, fruit trees generally blooming a week to ten days earlier than on the higher ground in the counties North, West and East. The Gazette of May 9, says: "The peach and cherry trees are now at about full bloom and promise an abundant yield of fruit. Every tree is loaded with blossoms. Apple trees are fast coming into bloom and indicate a large crop. In the valley the apple trees will be in full bloom in two or three days and 'back on the hills' about a week later."

Williamsburg, at the foot hills of the Hampshire-Berkshire range, after the se-

vere winter of 1903-1904 was one of the few towns in the State that had several orchards of peaches, and the outlook is again good.

The hillside of Williamsburg and the towns west afford some of the best dairy ground of the State. Creameries or butter factories are located at Williamsburg, Cumington, Worthington and just on the border of Franklin County at Conway. These all produce a grade of butter that takes the premium and commands the highest prices.

Around Northampton for some six miles the milk produced is nearly all used in its natural state or as cream. Milk retails at six and seven cents per quart, separator cream at thirty-five cents per full quart. Northampton. H. M. PORTER.

Testing Cows.

The chief value of making tests of milk, and keeping records both of the quantity and quality, is the information afforded as

their non-paying stock. In any case, a man cannot afford to keep cows which are in debt at the end of the year, and if he cannot afford to clear out the non-payers and replace them with an equal number of profitable individuals, let him get rid of them and keep to smaller number of the desirable class. In the case of the Connecticut herd, by selling out the moderate animals and replacing them with better class stock, the average profit was raised from \$12.30 in 1880 to \$35.93 in 1903.

Grange and Forest Reserves.

Rockland Grange conferred third and fourth degrees on three candidates and received an application May 9. The question was "Will the Establishment of a National Forest Reserve in the White Mountains be of Benefit to New Hampshire?" C. L. Russell, O. R. Colby, Theodore Wilman and C. H. Hixon were the speakers, and all supported the affirmative side of the question. One speaker said that there was no negative to this question. The main thought was that New Hampshire is a "Summer Tourist's Resort," and its beauty and attractiveness would be greatly diminished if not entirely gone, if our forests are not protected from the ruthless hand of the giant lumber companies. One speaker said that the growth and development of our town was almost wholly dependent on the "summer-boarding" business, and the place would be deserted by the city people if the forests on the mountains around Lake Umbagog were stripped. What is true of this section is equally true of the "White Mountain" region, and the sooner the United States owned and controlled that section the better it would be for New Hampshire and its interests.

One speaker mentioned the pure water and declared that the supply was largely dependent on the forest, since the availability of whatever rain falls is increased by a well-kept and properly located forest growth. The water dripping gradually from the leaves, branches and trunks reaches the ground more slowly, thus allowing more time for it to sink into the soil. Again, the forest cover gathers more snow, and being protected from the sun's rays it melts more slowly, usually lying on the ground from a fortnight to a month longer than on the open fields. All of these conditions tend to increase the spring's supply and the subsoil waters, and they become available in times of drought. The speaker said in conclusion that it was to be hoped that the United States would take action on this question, while some of the forests were left to rot upon.

Pomona Grange meets with Rockland May 29; closed session in the morning, public programme in the afternoon. Dinner and supper will be served to all present. Rockland will present a drama in the evening. Mrs. IMA E. BARTLETT.
New Hampshire.

How the Bees Should work.

Hard work alone is not all you need to practice. The probabilities are that you will do to much of this. Better hire more help and keep everything in order so the teams may not lose a minute in working hours. Have the work all planned ahead and everything ready for good weather, or bad. Then be on hand and engineer the changes.

Every farmer should know by actual experience just what a fair day's work is on his land, whether it is at plowing, harrowing, cultivating or any other work. No man ought to boss without this practical knowledge. But once having it perfectly, under varying conditions, a boss on a large farm can rarely afford to do much plain work that he can hire done as well for a matter of a dollar or so a day.

There is a chance for profit from good management in this line. It makes a decided difference in the cost of producing a crop whether a team can plow two acres a day or only one and a half, and the same when harrowing, cultivating, mowing, etc. It is poor management when one gets out a tool for hire, hired man to use to have the team wait and then man practically idle for an hour or so while repairs or changes are being made, or jolting done. Fifty cents worth of time is soon lost, and it may be much more than this direct loss from lack of time later to properly prepare land for a crop, or to remove the same on time, or to check evaporation of water in corn field after a rain as soon as possible.

Many a man has worked hard and not done as he ought, because his plow did not run right and he did not know how to set it as it should be, or perhaps he didn't know it could be made to go better. Few men realize how long they are getting from one job to another, how many minutes are wasted. I do not believe in over-working men, but in so managing, quietly, that they shall accomplish much in reasonable hours of labor and be no more tired than if only two-thirds as much had been done. This is the key. It will enable one to pay his men well and make money for himself. And I do believe that the farmer should have time to keep everything in order and ready (and do it, too), plan how the most can be accomplished, and then be around everywhere seeing that things move and that everything is done right.

The owner should know how fast, and then be honest, not ostentatious, but quietly and surely. It is absurd to hire a man who may know little about the best way of doing, perhaps, and let him do as he pleases and take his own time for it. No business but farming could stand such a lack of management. How few hands know about the advantages of thorough plowing, and much stirring of the soil, when properly dry, and checking evaporation so the crop can have the water, and not infusing roots,

and making a proper seed bed, and so on through a long list. Somebody should know about all these matters and from beginning to end see that they are attended to, perfectly, and as nearly on time as the weather will possibly allow.

Work is all right, but the owner of a farm, who employs help, should work first with his brains, all he can to advantage, then any surplus strength may be expended on common muscular labor.—T. B. Terry, in Practical Farmer.

The Value of Hen Manure.

Hen dung is very rich in nitrogen and phosphoric acid. It also contains a considerable amount of potash. The following tabular statement shows the average of the fertilizing elements contained in hen dung as compared with other important farmyard manures:

Manures	Nitrogen	Potash	Phos. Acid
Hen	1.63	0.88	1.54
Cow	0.34	0.24	0.18
Horse	0.58	0.53	0.36
Sheep	0.83	0.67	0.23
Hog	0.45	0.60	0.19

It is readily seen from this table that hen dung is by far superior to other manures, in that it contains a comparatively large amount of all the different plant foods.

But there is one evil associated with hen dung, inasmuch as it undergoes fermentation easily, thereby losing much of its nitrogen, unless proper precautions are taken to guard against this needless loss. This can easily be accomplished. If the manure is allowed to remain in the henhouse for several months, it is essential to litter the place below the roosts at least once a week with an abundant supply of short straw or other good absorbent. The henhouse, however, should be thoroughly cleaned every six months. If, on the other hand, the henhouse is cleaned out every day or week, it is necessary to thoroughly mix the manure with a good absorbent, and to pile it up in such a manner as to expose the least possible surface to the air.

Having thus provided for holding fertilizing elements of hen manure, it is needless also to point out that it should not be hauled on the land and spread unless it is at once turned under with the plow, or mixed with the surface soil of plowed land with a cultivator before sowing or planting. This should be done every autumn and spring. It is important, however, not to apply the manure in great abundance to the soil in order to insure a too rank growth of the plant.

About four or five tons to the acre is enough, especially if applied to the surface soil of plowed land. For garden purposes it may be applied a little thicker. Whoever will practice this method will find that the "insignificant stuff" pays well for the labor involved, and that it will prove itself a veritable little gold mine in disguise.

L. F. FREDERICH.

The Seals of Values.

The remarkable strength of the butter market and the unexpected advances which have occurred from time to time have caused a great deal of discussion about the course of prices, and almost every dealer has some theory to advance. Some think the ten-cent tax on colored also greatly strengthened the butter situation. Others believe the natural increase in demand caused by the gain in population and earning power has improved the demand. The increased proportion of milk sent to the wholesale city trade is another point taken into consideration. It is stated also that the growth of general business in certain dairy sections has vastly increased the local demand and shut off a part of the shipments formerly going to distant markets. It is believed by many that dairying has not increased anywhere near as fast as the demand.

If these reasons, or the majority of them, are correct, it is possible that the high average of prices has come to stay for the present, or until increased production offsets the various factors which make for high prices. The price level has now reached a point where dairying is very profitable and a further increase is hardly desirable because of the encouragement it would give to the various imitations and substitutes. High prices also tend to check the regular demand and get the consumers into the habit of scrimping in the use of butter.

The storage situation is, no doubt, a factor to be considered. Last year the storage men made big profits and are expected to buy actively this year. They may bid the market up high to prevent prices going to the usual level for June butter. The effect of this buying will be at the least to level up prices, removing the surplus in June and creating a reserve for the rest of the season. According to the Elgin dairy report the number of cows used for dairy purposes has not increased since the last census. In many localities it is claimed by this authority that there has been a decrease. Yet the make of butter, it is claimed, has increased because of the use of hand separators and other improvements. The report states also that the amount of butter made at the creameries is now about forty per cent. ten years ago, showing the trend of butter may be from the farm to the creamery. All these factors are worthy careful note in studying the dairy situation and prospects.

The leadership of the Massachusetts gypsy milk campaign went to the best qualified man despite the grumbling of disappointed politicians. Mr. Kirkland after various ups and downs has reached a position and salary equaled by very few of the younger agricultural graduates. It pays to stick to one line through thick and thin, even if it's "nothing but bugs."

Poultry.

How to Dress Poultry.

Expert teaching on dressing market poultry is as scarce as it is desirable. Directions which give all details of the best methods in such a way that anyone can follow them can hardly be found in any of the standard books on poultry.

This state of things has induced a Pennsylvania expert, S. V. Thomas, 531 Mahalia street, Pittsburgh, Pa., to get out a little twenty-five cent book called "How to Dress Poultry," which, as the saying goes, "fills a long felt want." It not only tells just what the poultryman needs to know along this line, but it illustrates the chief operations with excellent full-page photographs, each one of which is worth chapters of description because they show a trained poultry dresser at the actual work. By permission of the publisher we show two of these photographs, one illustrating sticking the fowl and the other showing how to hold birds when scalding. To quote briefly from the description:

"After tying up the bird by the legs, take hold of the wings and look them. This can be done by bringing one over the other and catching the tip of the upper wing under that of the lower. This will make it impossible for the bird to extricate itself and will allow the dresser free use of both hands."

"Then in the left hand grasp the head firmly and force the bill open by the use of the thumb and middle finger. After you have a secure hold, thrust the blade down the throat just behind the head and draw it across, with the point slipping along the neck or backbone."

"This will sever the jugular vein and insure a good 'stick.' Now withdraw the knife and allow the bird to bleed for a few moments, then place the point of the knife against the root of the left hand, and force it through the membrane into the brain cavity, turn it three-quarters of the way round, twisting the wrist in the natural way, and then draw the blade directly across the base of the brain, thus severing the spinal cord and thereby destroying the control which, in life, the bird has over its feathers."

"With a few trials this method will become quite easy and you will find the feathers almost ready to drop off."

"As soon as the brain has been pierced, the dresser should turn the knife into the skin of the lower bill and make a hole through a hook suspending a weight of some kind should be hung (a horsehoe, attached to a piece of strong wire, is excellent)—this keeps the neck extended and assures of a thorough bleeding, which is all important."

"When scalding is found necessary, melt a little rosin in the water, and the birds in only long enough for the water to penetrate through the feathers into the flesh. This should also be done when you desire to remove the small feathers of ducks and geese."

"Never allow the head or legs to be touched by the water, for it takes all the color out of the former, and leaves the latter raw and anything but attractive. Catch the bird by the head and legs—dip it in the water two or three times,—then pick up quickly and do not rub any more than absolutely necessary."

The author goes on to describe everything from feeding the fowls for market to cooling, shipping, etc., including chapters on turkeys, ducks and geese. It is all so excellent that we should like to quote it entire, but content ourselves with recommending every poultryman to obtain a copy. As the author says: "An expert dresser can cover a multitude of sins by the proper handling of the fowl." A good bird well reared and fattened is not complete unless it receives the finishing touch at market time in the hands of an expert dresser. The time has arrived when a fancy dealer almost anywhere among a select class of consumers.

Concentrating the Duck Business.

The duck-raising business in Long Island tends to concentrate more and more each year. Some of the larger growers now produce thirty to forty thousand ducks yearly, and one grower expects to market seventy-five thousand the present year. Some years ago the growers formed an association, selected two or three firms to handle the ducks in New York city, and thus were able to regulate the market and secure uniform and satisfactory prices. Later some of the growers made direct contracts with certain dealers, giving them their entire product for the season, and this year it is said still more of the growers will adopt this system. The plan, it is said, reduces considerably the profits of the commission men, but is an advantage to the growers.

Eggs Plenty.

Eggs have been arriving in liberal quantity and demand has been scarcely sufficient to take care of receipts. The tendency is to slightly weaker prices, although prices have not been disturbed much as yet. The weakness shows mostly in Southern and Western grades, but the whole situation is helped somewhat by the cool weather, which enables distant shipments to arrive in good condition for the present.

At New York the heavy offerings give the market a still weaker tone on the great bulk of the supply, consisting of medium and lower grades of Western and Southern eggs. There is still a fairly steady holding of fancy Northern grades, free from defects incident to the warm weather and showing more or less careful grading; prices for such are maintained, although the demand is not large and is quite easily supplied at 15 cents for average best stock, with fancy graded goods bringing one-fourth to one-half cent more. A large part of the Western receipts, however, will no longer satisfy the best class of trade, unless very closely candled here, and dealers will take them only at very moderate prices. Much of the supply is selling in range of 16 to 17 cents, and very good quality is obtained at 17 cents.

Borticultural.

Starting the Orchard.

After having decided what varieties to plant the question of trees must be considered. The general idea of a nursery tree is one that is tall and stocky, straight and smooth. It is from this idea that too many, say, of Baldwin have been planted, and a good many of our most valuable varieties almost eliminated, for perhaps half of our best varieties make a low and scrubby growth, which is not a defect of the tree, but rather a characteristic of the variety. It is always advisable to select first-class stock as to secure a good foundation for the orchard, which we expect to give us large returns for a long period of years. The better class of nursery stock is root-

grafted on some strong and vigorous-growing stock, as Ben Davis or Northern Spy, in order that the root system may be capable of supplying abundant food for the rapid growth of the young tree. In the case of apples it is usually advisable to buy the trees at the age of two years, of medium size. A large young tree is too succulent and tender, and is easily chilled. Always look for borers and scale insects, and if any of either are present reject the trees promptly.

The time of planting trees depends upon your location and condition of soil. In a well-drained soil many advantages are gained by fall planting, as the trees become established in the soil and are ready to take up plant food and begin growing in the spring, and this early start is quite important, as the trees are better enabled to endure the droughts of the summer than those planted in the spring. In some locations where very severe winters are experienced it is, perhaps, better to delay the planting until spring.

The distance apart for setting trees depends largely upon the variety. Trees are wide feeders and the roots in most cases extend farther from the trunk than the branches. The average distance for apples is forty feet each way, thus giving them plenty of feeding space. Peaches, pears or plums are often planted with apples. If this is practiced they should be removed when they begin to crowd the apple trees.

The trees should be pruned before setting. In taking the trees from the nursery row a large proportion of the root system is left in the ground; it is evident that the top should be cut back a corresponding amount, so as to reduce the number of buds drawing water and food from the newly incorporated roots. Remove all bruised and broken branches and prune with the idea of forming a well-balanced tree. Whatever has been the previous treatment of the soil, apply twenty loads of barnyard manure per acre and plow as deep as possible. The land is then pulverized by harrowing, laid off in forty-foot squares and the holes made to receive the trees. The harder the soil the wider and deeper the holes should be, so as to afford space for fine soil around the root tips.—F. B. Dunbar, Springdale, N. Y.

Success with Strawberries.

[From a paper read in Hartford, Ct., by J. Henry Race, North Egremont, Mass.]

I set usually the first week in May, and it takes a week to dig and set the plants, which is plenty long enough to leave the weeds, so I start the cultivator just as soon as I get through setting, and keep it going, as the weeds show themselves, all summer.

THE NEW FIELD.

I think that there is no danger of over cultivation. I narrow up the cultivator as the runners spread and try to leave the plants in uniform matted rows two or 2½ feet wide. Right here let me say that I long ago gave up trying to carry over an old bed, as I would rather set new every spring, and care for the new bed, than clean out an old one. I used to try setting in the fall, but it only gave me extra work in weeding, with a greater per cent. of winter-killed plants that had to be re-set in the spring, and worst of all, an inferior quality of fruit, because plants did not get strong enough to carry out their fruit, so abandoned fall setting altogether.

SETTING THE PLANTS.

Perhaps I ought to give my method of setting plants; I do not trim the roots, although I like the plan, time is worth too much. I use in setting a hoe. Buy a new hoe, as good a one as I can find, out the handle off fifteen or eighteen inches long, then cut one side of the hoe off to a point, the right side for a right-hand man, and the left side for a left-hand man, and I find this tool very valuable in weeding, so much so that most of my men choose it in preference to any other. Taking this hoe and sticking it into the ground its full depth and drawing it toward me, enough to give room for the roots of the plant to be set behind it, so that the roots will be straight down in the ground, then place the plant in and withdraw the hoe, and, taking both hands, press the plant in firmly, the harder the better, unless the ground is very wet.

In setting in this way I avoid the hot, dry dirt that is on the surface, coming in contact with the roots, which in a dry time, is very much to be avoided. When it is very hot and hot I brush away the dirt, hot dirt before sticking in my hoe. I have always been very successful setting plants, when I set them myself. I seldom lose any; not more than two or three to the thousand.

Spray Talk from Ohio.

I am sending you this summary of "Spraying for Control of Orchard Pests," which was a very excellent institute paper by Chief Inspector of Orchards and Nurseries, A. F. Burgess, and should be of interest to all fruit growers: "The annual losses arising from insect pests and plant diseases are enormous. Trees and ornamental shrubs in cities are likewise attacked and it will be only a short time till spraying will be more general. Rot, mildew, scab, and leaf spot may be controlled by spraying. Bordeaux mixture is the standard fungicide. There are two distinct types of insects, those that feed upon the tissue of the plant and those that suck the sap. A good insecticide must destroy the insects without injuring the plant. Poisons such as paris green, arsenate of lead, (disparage) should be used against foliage eating insects. The former applied at the rate of one pound to 100 gallons of water, the latter at the rate of three pounds to fifty gallons of water. The latter is more satisfactory. Stronger solutions do not injure the foliage. It is advisable to use Bordeaux mixture with these to check fungus diseases. Sucking insects, such as plant lice, should be combated with dilute kerosene emulsion, or whale oil soap mixture at the rate of one pound to four gallons of water. As a winter wash the lime and sulphur wash have no equal. This is made by boiling together fifty pounds of sulphur with fifty pounds of stone lime, boiling one hour. Then dilute this with 100 gallons of water. Among the pests doing the greatest damage to Ohio orchards are San Jose scale, codling moth, plum curculio, canker worm, peach borer, peach yellow, peach leaf curl, apple scab, plum rot, shot hole fungus that attacks the leaves of plum and cherry. These may be controlled by systematic spraying."

"Ohio is one of the largest fruit-growing States in the Union. Her fruit crop for 1934 was \$3,901,320, an amount exceeded only by New York, California and Pennsylvania. Yet it is a State of small orchards. Between 1929 and 1934 the area planted to fruit has diminished 74,101 acres; 65,748 acres of this shrinkage was in apple orchards. This is a rapid decrease of small orchards. In 1935 only nineteen per cent. of the 905 owners sprayed regularly, and they were growing good crops. Of the remaining, 675 did not spray, six per cent had sprayed once

STICKING THE FOWL.
Notice the position of the left hand and how knife is held; also how closely the feathers lie against the body.

HOW TO SCALD.

Do not misconstrue this photo. Chickens, unless feathered "set" too quickly, should never be dipped. This is merely to show how a duck or goose should be held to prevent the injuring of their appearance by cooking the head and legs.

and failed, a similar per cent. had sprayed once with good results, but after neglected it. Unsprayed orchards were in all stages of decline. Not all spraying is good spraying. Spraying is an index of the care a fruit grower gives his orchard. The future of orcharding will depend on systematic spraying, coupled with careful cultural methods, and will be governed by the law of the survival of the fittest. The best scientific revelations to be had may be obtained from State and national institutions free."

This paper brought out prolonged discussion. "Did I understand you that partridge could be controlled by spraying?" "No sir. Cut out the part affected." "How often shall we spray for the codling moth?" "Four times. There are two broods and the last spraying is to catch the last brood." "If pear trees are nearly killed by disease would it be safe to dig them out and burn and plant new trees in the same holes?" "No sir. There might be danger in planting in the old holes." Mr. Cox of Lawrence thought that foliage might be injured with arsenate of lead. "Did you not use Bordeaux with the disparage?" "Yes sir. That was what injured the foliage." Mr. Rodebush has found no injury from use of arsenate of lead. A question from audience in regard to the absurd claims of medicine vendors was answered by Professor Burgess as follows:

"I would caution fruit growers about putting too much dependence on their claims. They appeal to you to sell goods and do not always call to facts. 'What is the objection to spraying while in bloom? We have had excellent results from such spraying.' 'Spraying when in bloom has been practiced in our orchard with success,' said Mr. Cox. 'It destroys the bees,' said Professor Burgess. Dr. Chamberlain objected to the society appearing to go on record as favoring spraying when in bloom. It was an injury to the bees which had a distinct economic value, and was contrary to the best scientific thought and practice." M. E. Linn, Ohio.

Apple Shipments.

The total apple shipments from all ports for the week ending May 13, were 5016 barrels, including 916 barrels from Boston, 4800 barrels from New York and 104 barrels from Halifax, N. S. The total shipments for the season have been 2,504,438 barrels against 2,465,993 barrels for 1934. Maynard & Child on the Liverpool apple market: Somerset, 500,000; New York, 500,000; Ontario, 500,000; Washington, 500,000; California, 500,000; Oregon, 500,000; Idaho, 500,000; Utah, 500,000; Arizona, 500,000; Nevada, 500,000; Montana, 500,000; Wyoming, 500,000; Colorado, 500,000; New Mexico, 500,000; Texas, 500,000; Oklahoma, 500,000; Missouri, 500,000; Illinois, 500,000; Indiana, 500,000; Ohio, 500,000; Pennsylvania, 500,000; Maryland, 500,000; Delaware, 500,000; Virginia, 500,000; North Carolina, 500,000; South Carolina, 500,000; Georgia, 500,000; Florida, 500,000; Alabama, 500,000; Louisiana, 500,000; Mississippi, 500,000; Arkansas, 500,000; Tennessee, 500,000; Kentucky, 500,000; West Virginia, 500,000; Maryland, 500,000; Delaware, 500,000; Virginia, 500,000; North Carolina, 500,000; South Carolina, 500,000; Georgia, 500,000; Florida, 500,000; Alabama, 500,000; Louisiana, 500,000; Mississippi, 500,000; Arkansas, 500,000; Tennessee, 500,000; Kentucky, 500,000; West Virginia, 500,000; 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Arkansas, 500,000; Tennessee, 500,000; Kentucky, 500,000; West Virginia, 500,000; Maryland, 500,000; Delaware, 500,000; Virginia, 500,000; North Carolina, 500,000; South Carolina,

Our Homes.

The Workbox.

BABY'S SILK HOOD CROCHETED.

Two spools of crocheted silk, ten yards of baby ribbon and a fine steel hook, are materials required.

Make a chain of 6 stitches and join in ring.

1st round—Twelve doubles under the ring.

2d round—Two doubles in 1st double, (*) 1 double in next double, repeat from (*) all around.

3d round—Two double in first double, (*) 1 double in each of 2 doubles, 2 doubles in next double, repeat from (*) all around.

4th and 5th round—Like third round.

6th round—Two double in first double, (*) 1 double in each of 3 doubles, 2 double in next, repeat from (*) all around.

7th round—One double in each double of previous round.

8th round—Two double in first double (*) 1 double, 2 double in next double, repeat from (*) all round.

Repeat this last round 5 times more.

14th round—A shell of 4 double between first 2 double, 1 double between the 2 double of next group, repeat from beginning all around.

15th round—A shell of 4 double between second and third double of shell of previous round, 1 double on double, repeat from beginning of round.

16th round—Like last round. Turn and go back across the last-made row until within 7 shells of the beginning of the row; then turn and go back on the twenty-seventh shell (with 1 double between each shell) for 11 more rounds. Begin each row with 3 chain.

Across the neck make 1 double in centre of shell, 2 chain, 1 double on double.

Then all around the hood make a full scallop of 100 double on shell. Shape the hood to the head with the baby ribbon, which should be of same shade as knitting silk. Place a small rosette of ribbon on centre of crown, also a large one in front on top. Ties of wider ribbon.

EVA M. NILES.

Petroleum for Complexion.

"If you want to see complexions, come to the oil wells," remarked the experienced operator in crude petroleum, smiling.

"Not women's complexions—no; they are not enough in touch with the real atmosphere that creates the peach-and-cream complexion."

These complexions belong to the hairy, bristled men who work day after day under the spouting oil of the active well, or around the pumps that draw the black or green or amber fluid, as the case may be, from the depths.

"I don't know whether the skin specialist has any explanation of the phenomenon, but it is true, nevertheless, that a man who works under the grimy conditions that are inevitable around the petroleum wells takes on a skin that the society woman might envy."

Where the work is the grimmest and the complexion of the men is the fairest, I have seen men who make a fortune posing as living proofs of Soandso's complexion ointments, if the 'fake' could be maintained and the opportunity made possible.

"To some extent it is the grease itself that does the something for the skin; where the color comes from is a guess with me—I could hardly lay it to the dyes that are in the basic material in some of these oils. But I know this much about crude petroleum—a steady application of it to the skin will make a complexion for any one who will take the course in earnest. If I were a woman seeking a complexion, as many women are, I would invest in a barrel of crude petroleum and bathe in it regularly.—Chicago Tribune.

Beds and Bedding.

Nothing is more conducive to sleep than a neatly made bed, with snow-white sheets and pillows that give forth the faint old-time fragrance of lavender. Yet this sweet herb is as seldom found in linen closets of the city housewife as is the large, restful bed of "flannels" days. So precious has space become in apartments (and nearly all the city lives in this fashion) that any makeshift which saves room is used in place of a bed.

There are two good rules on the proper position of a bed. It should never be placed against the wall, where there is often an imperceptible dampness. It should never stand in a recess or corner where there is not a constant circulation of fresh air. Dull headaches in the morning can nearly always be traced to sleeping in a bed far from a window.

All sorts of coverlets are now used for beds, but the plain, snow-white counterpane looks cool and restful in summer. Bedspreads of dotted Swiss or net are also appropriate if used over a foundation. The net for this purpose should be of coarse mesh and large enough when spread over the bed to clear the floor on three sides. Flounces of heavy Russian lace about four or five inches wide may be used for an edge. Many good housewives think a white coverlet cold looking and less picturesque than one in color.

Blankets are always preferable to quilts and comfortable, excepting those of soft down. Blankets, of course, can be washed, but frail women find them heavier and not so warm as down coverlets. All authorities, however, agree in condemning that favorite of past days, the "cray" quilt, and most of the other old-fashioned quilts. Although blankets are undoubtedly better than ordinary coverlets, a large number of housekeepers feel that their means will not permit them to use blankets exclusively, and therefore they add to their bedding comfortable, which are cheap and warm. Certainly some of the simple home-made coverlets in chesecloth of delicate tints look clean and pretty in country cottages.

Most housewives imagine that linen is the ideal material for sheets, but several household authorities consider it inferior to a good quality of cotton for this purpose. Linen is cold and "slippery." It is no more appropriate for sheets than it is for body wear, owing to its non-absorbent quality. The wrinkles in linen sheets are harder to smooth out than those in cotton, and, in addition, keep a bed from looking fresh. Linen, however, is at its best when used for tablecloths and napery. For all such purposes it is the ideal material.

Mattresses are difficult to clean, and even some work to brush properly, owing to the creases around the upholstery's buttons. If they are not constantly and completely covered by protectors the dust will gradually enter every crease. One piece of unbleached cotton sheeting should be stretched over the entire mattress. The end of the sheeting should first be pinned to the top of the mattress, the rest drawn

down to the foot, under the mattress, and up again to the top, where the upper and under ends should be neatly basted together. After all wrinkles are smoothed out, the edges of the sheeting along the sides of the mattress are roughly basted together. There should be two protectors for every mattress, so that when one is in the wash the other can take its place.

When there is illness in the family some housewives use, in addition, thick comforters of unbleached cotton, which can be easily washed. Pillows and bolsters are often covered with cheap cotton or calico to protect the ticking.

When airing a bed, place two chairs at the foot, about two or three feet away; then draw the bedclothes over them, leaving the mattress bare, or if you prefer, place the bedding on separate chairs. A certain very particular housekeeper arranged two strong hooks in every one of the bedrooms in inconspicuous corners, opposite each other, and about five feet from the floor. In the morning she stretched a line from hook to hook and hung the bedding over it to air for about two hours.—N. Y. Tribune.

Is This All So?

There is but one sure cure for the drinking disease or habit, and that is the simplest of all. The cure consists in eating fruits. That will cure the worst case of inebriety that ever inflamed a person. It will entirely destroy the taste for intoxicants and will make the drunkard return to the thoughts and tastes of his childhood, when he loved the luxuries nature had provided for him and when his appetite had not become contaminated by false, cultivated tastes and attendant false desires and imaginary pleasures. No person ever saw a man or woman who liked fruit and who had an appetite for drink. No person ever saw a man or woman with an appetite for drink who liked fruit. The two tastes are at deadly enmity with each other, and there is no room for both of them in the same human constitution. One will certainly destroy the other.—What to Eat.

Acute Disease of the Kidneys.

Acute inflammation of the kidneys, called also acute nephritis or acute Bright's disease, is excited by certain poisons during the process of their elimination from the body, or follows congestion, which results usually from exposure to cold and wet, or the sudden checking of perspiration, whereby the surface of the body is chilled and the blood is driven to the internal organs.

The poisons causing acute inflammation may be taken into the body from outside, as is often the case with turpentine, chlorate of potassium and certain other drugs, or they may be formed in the body as a result of faulty action of the digestive organs (intestinal indigestion), or by the bacteria of certain acute diseases, such as scarlatina, measles or diphtheria. The beginning of the disease may be marked by a chill, with headache, nausea, coated tongue and pain in the loins. These symptoms are followed by puffiness and swelling of the face and eyelids, or the ankles, or there may be general dropsy, with an effusion of fluid in the chest and abdomen. The kidney secretion is greatly reduced in amount, and may contain blood; on application of the usual tests, it is found to contain much albumin, sometimes so much that boiling will make it solid, like the white of an egg.

When acute Bright's disease is excited by a chilling of the body, it usually subsides in a week or two under proper treatment, but that occurring with scarlet fever often lasts many weeks, and either form may become chronic. The treatment, like that of inflammation of any other part, consists primarily in securing rest for the organ, and in protecting it, so far as possible, from further injury. The patient should be kept in bed in a well-ventilated room with a warm and equable temperature, the bowels should be kept open, and the action of the skin increased by warm packs or a hot-air bath.

Since the most difficult work of the kidneys is the elimination of salts and other waste matters, the diet must aim to reduce the amount of this waste material. The ideal food is milk. It should be diluted with Vichy or distilled water to which a pinch of bicarbonate of sodium has been added. The patient should be encouraged to drink in addition plenty of pure water. Three quarts or more of fluid should be taken in the twenty-four hours. This is the main treatment, but, of course, in an affection so serious the physician should be in constant attendance to interpose when threatening symptoms show themselves.—Youth's Companion.

A Family Sinking Fund.

A sinking fund is usually defined as a sum or sums of money set apart for the purpose of extinguishing a debt by the accumulation of interest. Another definition, and equally correct, is that this accumulation is made for taking care of some specific liability or undertaking or to provide for some unseen or unexpected emergency. In this sense, a family sinking fund—for a family that have not a surplus of income on which to call for unexpected expenses—would be a very sensible and provident thing—to put by small sums from time to time as a reserve fund for occasions of illness—for sickness will come into every home some time or other, and not infrequently at very inopportune times. Have a sinking fund, and which is only to be drawn upon when doctors and druggists and all the other attendants of illness must put in their unwelcome appearance, with the inevitable expenses that seem very great when added to the usual family expenditures.

It is a quite common mistake that most families make when sickness comes, that they themselves, the well members can do all the nursing that is necessary—sometimes they have to do it—but nothing so effectively ruins the comfort of the household as this "home" nursing. Not only are the entire family arrangements disorganized and demoralized, but the sick person is nowhere near so well taken care of as when a professional trained nurse is employed; it costs money to do this, of course, but the extra cost may be the means of saving the life of the patient, to say nothing of preserving the peace and comfort of the family. Nursing, when mixed up with the usual cares of housekeeping, is certainly a wearing and anxious additional burden to the mind as well as the body. There may be other sick persons to be added to the list, which should not be overlooked, a result of overwork and overstraining of the nerves.

It would not be such a very difficult thing to save and lay by, where all are in health, a small sum every month, deposit it in some reliable savings bank, which would grow up into a fund that would make it possible to employ a nurse when needed, a

BOATS FOOT OF SHEPARD HILL, HOLDERNESS, N. H.

Connected with the Asquam House.

nurse who, when the patient became accustomed to her, would make it vastly more comfortable, not only to the patient, but to every one else in the house. It may be—and generally is—more agreeable to the sick to have those they love in attendance about them, but there are these others to be considered; and physicians are practically all agreed that a skilled nurse counts about as much as themselves in the successful treatment of disease. J. M. B.

Grown Suddenly Old.

"Have you ever noticed," said a woman recently, "how the women you know will go on appearing the same for years, and every one you see will hear people say, 'How well Mrs. So-and-So is looking!' and then suddenly, without rhyme or reason, they will 'go crash'—and look about ten years older in one year? I have noticed it often. I do not mean the effects of ill health, or worries of any kind; I simply mean, as I say, they 'go crash' for no apparent reason."

"I have studied the matter somewhat, chiefly with a view to my own appearance, and I have come to the conclusion that a great deal of it is in the way we dress, or, rather, contrive to dress, for it is the changing one's style that so often proves fatal. Of course, we must grow older—that is a foregone conclusion. But as long as we do our hair and dress in practically the same styles the changes that must take place in even the best preserved women are not very noticeable, and in some women are hardly perceptible at all. But it is a great mistake, for instance, for a woman who is past her first youth to change the fashion of doing her hair. It accentuates every mark of time, and calls attention to every defect. A change in the fashions too rashly adopted also often adds years to the appearance of a woman. The modes must be followed very slowly and cautiously."

"Bright colors also are a great mistake. I know a woman who wore mourning for many years, and was wonderfully youthful in her appearance. One spring she went into color, and jumped from forty to fifty at a bound. Every one noticed it. If she had had the good sense to continue her black with just a touch of color, she would not have lost her reputation for youthfulness."

"Hats just now are dangerous to trifle with. A too youthful looking hat has proved many a middle-aged woman's undoing. An English woman who is still beautiful in sweeping black gowns, Marie Antoinette capes and a modified cap of the same style, said to me once that every woman of forty should adopt a uniform costume—something that suited her, that her friends would get accustomed to identify her with, and that she would never change. I thought it such a good idea, and think seriously, even now, of adopting it."

"Do you know Mrs. A.—? A year ago she was the youngest-looking woman of her age I knew. Well, I saw her yesterday in church, and she gave me a shock. She looked years older. 'Why is it?' I said to myself, and I set to discover what it was. Her face looked as fresh as usual. Then I noticed her hair. 'What a mistake!' I exclaimed in wardly, for she had dragged over the shoulders a black usually rippled back from her forehead nearly to her eyebrows."

"I suppose that is on account of the new-fashioned tip-tilted hat she is wearing," I surmised to myself. But the hat and the hair gave her a worn and older look that I never noticed before. Why couldn't the woman have kept to her neat tresses, which are still worn, and her softly waved hair, that grew so prettily around her temples? She has lost even her smart look in following the ultra fashions."

Domestic Hints.

STRAWBERRY DUMPLINGS.

Roll out a layer of cream of tartar biscuit dough very thin; butter and spread very thickly with ripe strawberries which have been rolled in sugar; then roll the dough up, pinch the edges tightly together and steam for three quarters of an hour. When done, serve immediately, cutting slices from the end, jelly-roll fashion. An egg sauce or whipped cream is delicious with this dessert.

PINEAPPLE CUSTARD.

Make about three tablespoonfuls of flour with one of butter and stir into a quart of boiling milk. Have ready the beaten yolks of eight eggs, add to them two-thirds of a cup of sugar and turn into the milk, stirring constantly for three minutes; add, when cold, a cupful of chopped pineapple and four tablespoonfuls of lemon juice. Cover with a meringue of the whites of the eggs and four dessert spoonfuls of powdered sugar. Brown lightly in the oven.

FRUIT JELLY.

Soak one box of gelatine one hour in one pint of cold water; when soaked, pour on one pint of boiling water, then put in a quart of fruit. Pineapples, canned strawberries or raspberries or other fruits may be used. Add one-half cup of sugar and one teaspoonful of lemon, then pour in mould to harden. Serve with whipped cream.

VEAL CURRY.

Veal is one of the meats especially adapted for curries. Here is an admirable recipe, recommended at the New England School of Cookery: A slice of veal half an inch thick, weighing a pound and a half, is cooked quickly in a frying pan without any butter. The surface should be quickly seared. Take out of the pan and cut in pieces about an inch and a half square. Fry the curry sauce as follows: Fry two sliced onions in half a cupful of butter, take out the onions and add to the butter the meat, half a tablespoonful of curry powder, and boiling water to cover. Cook slowly until the meat is tender. Thicken when done with four stirred into cold water and season with salt, cayenne and a squeeze of lemon juice. Serve with a border of boiled rice.

SCALLOPED WHITE FISH.

Mince some nicely cooked white fish until you have a cupful; season well with pepper and salt and a generous bit of butter. Into this stir a cupful of bread crumbs and two eggs, then turn

the mixture into a baking dish which has been well buttered, and pour over it a half cupful of milk, drop pieces of butter over the top and bake twenty minutes.

Hints to Housekeepers.

It is not generally known that eggs covered with boiling water and allowed to stand for five minutes are more nourishing and more easily digested than eggs placed in boiling water and allowed to boil furiously for three and a half minutes.

To tell if a piece of cloth to see if it is a cotton mixture, if you cut a small piece off and put a match to it, if it is all wool it will only flame, but if cotton is there it will flare up.

There is no nicer spring breakfast than a sliced green pepper cut very small and cooked for ten minutes with two peeled and sliced tomatoes in a little butter; add four eggs lightly beaten and stir as for a scramble.

To tell if a diamond is genuine make a small dot on a piece of paper with a lead pencil, and look at it through the diamond. If it shows but a single dot, the diamond is genuine; if it shows more than one, or the mark appears scattered, it is false, no matter what it cost.

Make a delicious violet perfume by putting half an ounce of small pieces of iris root into two ounces of alcohol. Add to this a bunch of newly-picked violets, cork and bottle tightly and shake well. After it has been standing four or five days a few drops on the handkerchiefs will leave the scent of fresh violets.

When the handles of steel knives and forks come off they can be easily mended with resin. Pour a little powdered resin into the cavity in the handle. Heat the part of the knife that fits into the handle until it is red hot, and thrust into the handle. It will become firmly fixed by the resin when it becomes cool. Protect the blade from the heat.

Don't use borax and rosewater to remove tan and freckles without putting on a little cold cream afterwards, for borax makes the skin dry.

A glass of water drunk half an hour before bedtime and just before retiring will frequently regulate the bowels, so those troubled with constipation will be all right.

To remove old putty and paint, make a paste with soft soap and a solution of caustic soda, or with slaked lime and kerosene. Lay it on with a piece of rag or a brush, and leave it for several hours, when it will be found that the paint or putty may be easily removed.

Camphor is very useful to freshen the air of a sick room. Put a piece on an old saucer, and on it lay the point of a red-hot poker, when its fumes will quickly fill the room.

THE PERKINS INSTITUTION AND MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

BY CHARLES F. REARD, CLERK OF THE BOSTONIAN SOCIETY.

Among the many beneficent institutions in Boston few, if any, have accomplished so much for the welfare of mankind as have the one whose corporate name heads this article. Founded early in the nineteenth century, it was the first institution of its kind in this country to give a practical education to persons deprived of their sight, and its methods have been largely copied elsewhere.

In the year 1829, the Legislature of Massachusetts passed an act for the incorporation of the New England Asylum for the Blind, the State thus giving its approval to a project which had its inception in the minds of two young Boston physicians, Samuel Gridley Howe, M. D., and John Dix Fisher, M. D.

But the establishment of the asylum was to be delayed for a short time, for both of its founders went to Europe, where they studied the methods of asylums for the blind. Dr. Howe's career at this time was a most romantic one. He had become interested a few years before in the Greek war for independence, which occurred in the years 1824 to 1827 and served in the army as a surgeon. Returning to America, he solicited aid for the Greeks, who were in danger of famine, and when he had returned to Greece he established a colony on the Isthmus of Corinth.

Upon Dr. Howe's return to Boston, he entered at once into the organization of the asylum, and it opened its doors in the autumn of 1832. So interested did the public become at this time in the project that large fairs were held for its benefit, one in Boston and the other in Salem, the latter one being conducted by ladies of Salem, Marblehead and Newburyport. By this means, interest was stimulated in the education of the blind and much money was provided for the maintenance of the institution.

At this time also, a most liberal offer of assistance came from one of Boston's distinguished citizens, Col. Thomas H. Perkins. He offered to give his mansion house and grounds on Pearl street as a home for the asylum, provided that the sum of fifty thousand dollars be contributed in Boston, which condition was more than realized in one month.

In order to arouse public interest to a greater extent, exhibitions of work, done by the blind, were held in all of the New England and several of the Western States, and as a result, appropriations were made of one thousand dollars annually for twelve years from Connecticut, twelve hundred dollars annually from Vermont and five hundred dollars from New Hampshire.

Early in the year 1839, the Mount Washington House on Broadway, South Boston, which building had been erected a few years previously for a hotel, at a cost of one hundred and ten thousand dollars, was offered to the trustees in exchange for the Pearl street estate. The offer was accepted after careful deliberation and by a special vote of the corporation.

The property, thus acquired, comprised various buildings and a lot of fifty-five thousand square feet of land, and another lot of twenty thousand square feet of land

on the opposite side of Broadway. The inmates of the asylum were transferred to the new home in May, 1839, all of the expenses of removal being contributed by several benevolent citizens of Boston.

It was at this time thought wise to connect the name of the great benefactor, Colonel Perkins, with the name of the institution, and by a vote of the trustees the corporation became the "Perkins Institution and Massachusetts Asylum for the Blind," and the community knows it today by that name, with the exception of the change of one word. In 1877 the word School was substituted for the word Asylum, in accordance with the wish of Dr. Howe, expressed before his death.

The Perkins Institution still occupies its commanding site on ancient Dorchester Neck, and still continues its humane work, laid out by Dr. Howe, although in a greatly enlarged degree. Since Dr. Howe's death, in 1878, the director of the school has been his son-in-law, Michael Anagnos.

The pupils of the school are naturally taught such studies and trades as are readily and thoroughly acquired by the blind. As they acquire a strong love of music, that study is one of the principal ones, and not only are good musicians graduated from the school, but many are taught the more homely accomplishment of piano tuning. Another important branch is the printing of books for the blind. This was first undertaken many years ago, under the direction of Dr. Howe, and so great has been the progress made by means of ingenious devices, that a large library has been published, including many standard works.

Among the trades taught are chair seating, the manufacture of mattresses of every description and door mats. These and other products form so large and varied an assortment that for years a store in Boston has been devoted to their sale.

In closing, it is interesting to record that Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, widow of Dr. Howe, and beloved of all Boston, is still with us in a happy and useful old age. At this present writing, she has just addressed a large audience in Boston on the topic, "Women in the World."

Used Fifteen Years Successfully. Did All that is Claimed.

EAST ALSTON, N. H., Feb. 6, 1904. Dr. B. J. Kendall Company:

Dear Sirs:—I tried your remedies on cracked heel as directed on page 56 of your "Treatise on Cracked Heels" and found it all right. It completely cured her. I have been using your Kendall's Spavin Cure and now she is nearly well, does not go lame at all. I have given your Spavin Cure a fair trial and feel and know that there is nothing that can take its place. I have also used it for the last fifteen years and find it all it is claimed. You may use my name if you wish. I shall always use Kendall's Spavin Cure in preference to any other.

Yours with respect, H. A. COMERY.

A Trial of Champions.

"That a man's weakness is also his 'strong point' is fully demonstrated by the career of Mr. M. W. Savage, proprietor of International Stock Farm, Minneapolis, Minn. The first conspicuous purchase of Mr. Savage in the trotting horse line was a world's champion, the lion-hearted trotting king, Directum (2:04), the world's long reigning champion trotting stallion, and since then he has added to his string of champion stallions till he now owns three of them, namely, Dan Patch (1:56), the fastest harness horse in the whole world; Directum (2:04), for many years the champion trotting stallion of the world, and still the world's champion four-year-old trotting stallion, and lastly he added the 5-year-old Arion (2:10), (3) (2:10), (4) (2:07), still the reigning two and three-year-old champion trotting stallions of the world. It is only when one stops to think soberly and considerably of this group of stallions that one can grasp and fully realize the stupendousness of Mr. Savage's accomplishments and possessions in the champion stallion line. To own one champion stallion is quite sufficient to satisfy the average man's ambition, but three of them satisfies Mr. Savage's ambition none too well, and, like Alexander the Great, it is most likely that he seeks other worlds to conquer, other champions to own, and their services to offer to the trotting horse public on most reasonable terms. Verily, 'Three World's Champion Stallions' and '3 Feeds for One Cent' make a 'winner' combination, both for Mr. Savage and his business patrons.—Exchange.

"The American Trotter" is the title of the latest and in many respects the best book that has ever been published which treats of the origin, history and development of the American trotting horse. It is from the pen of Mr. S. W. Parlin, editor of that excellent journal, the American Horse Breeder, and should be in the library of every person who desires to have a knowledge of the history of the most useful of all horses. Mr. Parlin's work commences with an account of the earliest history of horse racing and traces the trotting breed from its foundation to the present day. There is no writer on the subject who is a more careful and painstaking person than Editor Parlin, nor one who sticks closer to facts and makes so few statements on hearsay. He believes in "the thoroughbred cross" and supports every claim made by facts and figures that no fair-minded person can gainsay. The work is profusely illustrated with pictures of the most noted trotters, sires and brood mares, nearly all from copyrighted photographs made by Schreiber, the leading animal photographer of America. The price of the book is only \$2, and every horseman who buys and reads it will consider it the best investment he ever made with that much money.

A Hindoo poem enumerates eight hundred purposes to which the Palmyra palm alone is put. Among other things it supplies bark for writing upon, an intoxicating drink called 'toddy,' large quantities of sugar fruit and a vegetable for the table when the plants are young. Palmyra wine is also obtained from the juice of the sage palm, which yields excellent sugar candy when boiled. The pith of the trunk forms a large part of the food of the natives in many parts of India. Broom, brushes and brooms are manufactured from the fibre of the leaf stalks.

THE AMERICAN TROTTER.

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The Horse.

Part Pasture for Working Horses.

I have been known to be short or even out of hay in working season, and depended on grass for the horses. I gathered it for them with the scythe and pitchfork. Though the grass did make them sweat more, in the grass large enough to mow there was substance enough so that they stood the work well and carried their flesh as well as usual.

But to make the grass diet more satisfactory the grain must be fed in proper form, either ground or soaked. Dry corn, the usual feed, and grass make a poor combination and do not digest well together.

When first eating grass the teeth may be a little tender, the dry corn is not masticated well, and the wide variation between the two substances one can readily see that the best result will not be obtained in that way. I use two parts oats and one part corn, ground fine, for horse feed, and plenty of it; then there is no question about the horse not standing the work well on a grass diet.

I do not allow the horses to miss a feed of grain during the working season, but when running in the pasture am not particular if they do miss a noon feed; but they must have grain twice a day whether working or not. It is a common practice with some to turn their horses out Saturday night and leave them till Monday morning, and these people are usually the ones that say their horses do not stand the work well. The horse that has its liberty part of the time and takes voluntary exercise is a far more docile animal for man's use.—Cyrus Greene.

Turf News and Notes.

Breed in the best and most successful speed perpetuating lines when trotting speed is the object sought.

Over forty entries have been received to the work-horse parade that comes off in Boston on Memorial Day.

Those who have charge of the Government breeding establishment have been freed of some of the most objectionable trotting stallions to place at the head of the stud. There are but few stallions that possess in a higher degree all the desirable qualities which it is the intention to produce than does this grandson of Robert McGregor (2:17), and fewer still that are so well qualified by blood inheritance as he to perpetuate those valuable qualities with uniformity. If the managers of that establishment make no more serious mistakes than they have in the selection of a stallion to head the stud, the experiment is likely to prove a pronounced success.

The horsemen of Dover, Somersworth, N. H., and vicinity have organized a driving club with headquarters at Dover, and will give matinee races on Memorial Day.

There is nothing better for fevered feet than walking horses in grass when it is wet with early morning dew. If more agreeable to the groom and the age of the animal will permit he may be ridden instead of led.

The demand for good, serviceable horses in this vicinity seems to be increasing, judging from the inquiries for such which come to us, and prices are fully maintained. It is a favorable time now for those farmers who have good horses in the country to dispose of them. When competition among buyers is so brisk as it is now, be those who have animals suitable for the market should be able to get nearly their full value. Don't refuse a good offer. Remember that it is better to sell and be sorry than to keep and be sorry.—Horse Breeder.

Notes from Washington, D. C.

The forthcoming annual Year book of the Department of Agriculture will contain an unusually good selection of popular and instructive articles on farming, fruit raising and live stock growing. For many years this annual "blue book" of the Agricultural Department was a dry, decidedly uninteresting affair which, though widely distributed by Congressmen and Senators, usually found its way into the farmer's waste basket or shelf where it rested forever afterwards comfortably and undisturbed. Of late years, however, this volume has been much more widely read and in fact always contains a number of articles of description and advice well worth careful perusal.

Among articles of general farm interest in this year's issue will be General Farming, by W. J. Spillman, the chief of the division of grasses; Forest Planting and Farm Management, by George L. Clough of the Bureau of Forestry; Practical Road Building, by S. C. Lancaster; Promising New Fruits, by W. A. Taylor, assistant pomologist; Boys' Agricultural Clubs, by Dick J. Crosby; Some Benefits the Farmer May Derive from Game Protection, and Animal Breeding and Feeding Investigations by the Bureau of Animal Industry, by the chief, Dr. D. E. Salmon. Other articles of more special or local interest are Inspection of Foreign Food Products, by Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief chemist; Potato Culture near Greeley, Colo., Improvement of Tobacco by breeding and selection, by A. D. Shamel; Annual Loss Occasioned by Destructive Insects, by C. L. Marlett, assistant entomologist; Sugar Beet Seed Breeding and other articles.

A rather unusual article to appear in the new Year Book of the Department of Agriculture is entitled The Weather Bureau and the Homemaker. It undertakes to show that it is a matter of greatest importance to settlers who contemplate moving into a new locality to have information relative to the climatic conditions there existing, so that he may determine whether or not the change will be advantageous and may make his plans to meet the new conditions and turn them to his profit. A source of such information is to be found in the reports issued by the Weather Bureau. The author of the article believes that the climatic and crop service of the Bureau is of as much importance as the forecasting branch and of the 190 regular stations of the Weather Bureau throughout the country, forty-five, covering all the States, are designated as climatic and crop service centers. From the information received from the thousands of crop correspondents of the Bureau weekly crop bulletins are prepared and published. These are issued free of cost to all who desire them, and the information which they contain forms an excellent basis upon which to determine the agricultural products which can be successfully grown in any locality. The various crop publications, according to this article, are constantly consulted by homeseekers, although not to the extent which the settlers' interests would warrant.

Lovers of dumb animals can find much satisfaction in the statement made in a report which has been republished by the Bureau of Animal Industry that in the housing and general care of dairy cows no foreign country shows, as a rule, in general practice, any methods or conditions better than those found in America. The average conditions everywhere are bad enough with opportunities for great improvement; but improvement is being made as rapidly in the United States as anywhere. Nowhere else is it stated, is there a better appreciation of the importance and economy of abundant room, light, air, drains, comfort, cleanliness for cows. We hear much of the close relations between the dairy cows and the homes of their owners in Holland and Switzerland, connecting apartments, under the same roof, etc., but the stables which are seen in the summer by tourists, converted into conservatories for the use of the dairy and cheese curing are the exception and show places. Even the best of these, when visited in mid-winter, with the cattle in place, are often found dark, close, poorly ventilated, crowded and unsanitary in many respects, although they may be kept clean. While the construction of cow stables generally in the dairy regions of the Old World is substantial, it is with little regard for light, ventilation and cleaning and the labor necessary to keep them in decent condition would be regarded as impossible in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture has received the report of an experiment made in England to determine the effects of the weather on the quality of milk. Over 1100 samples of milk have been examined during the last three years and comparisons made with the rainfall records during the same period. While great variations were observed in different years and in different periods of the same year, the results were considered as affording no evidence whatever that excessively dry or excessively wet weather produced any influence upon the quality of milk.

The Bureau of Soils has issued its annual report, and an accompanying great mass of soil survey maps of many different parts of the country covered by this system of soil analysis. The various writers of the report found many sections of the country in a lamentable condition from the standpoint of economical and up-to-date agricultural practice. Many instances are noted where the farmers give the land as little preparation as possible, hoping that a favorable season with timely showers will overcome this lack of cultivation and insure good crops. Attention is called to the fact that shallow plowing and lack of after cultivation results in rapid drying out of the soil and certain crop failure to a greater or less extent. The careful farmer plows deep.

The most successful farmers of the country have come to realize the value of deep plowing and thorough cultivation and are raising twice as much grain on their land as they did twenty years ago. Statistics of grain and other yields fully bear out this criticism of the Department agents. The average wheat yield of the entire United States, for instance, is less than fourteen bushels per acre, a miserable yield in which there is no profit for the farmer. As large areas produce twenty-five, and as high as thirty-five bushels per acre this means that other areas must produce far less than even fourteen bushels.

Criticism is also made of the lack of rotation among many farmers and the over-cropping of the soil. A regular rotation of crops, the report says, is practiced by most careful farmers, and more attention to this feature and to the system of cultivation is earnestly recommended. The department men also remark on the shiftless practices, in many instances, of leaving peapods and other farm implements without shelter all winter—an evil too obvious to require comment.

—GUY E. MITCHELL.

A STUDY IN RAILROAD GARDENING.

(Reprinted from the May issue of Suburban Life. Copyright 1905 by Colonial Press, Inc.)

The influence exerted by a railroad in the development of a suburban life is often underestimated. Take a day's journey into the country in almost any direction, and you will come across tracks of land beautifully located with a view to agriculture; elevations from which the most delightful scenery lies spread before one as in a panorama; forests invitingly cool in the green leaf of their summer verdure; and yet with all this which is attractive to the man who loves country life, you will find but a scattered population, or what is perhaps more likely, and your self within the circle of the abandoned farm. Let a railroad pierce this tract of country, and if it is within any ordinary distance from the city, we immediately find the completion of things changed, and the country promptly prepared for the discouraged farmer has long ago forsaken.

There are today over seven hundred thousand people who may properly be called suburbanites. They have left the city and gone into the country districts immediately adjacent to it, thus combining all the pleasures and advantages of the country with the attractions and conveniences of city life. At no time during the last half century has there been such a spontaneous movement countryward as during the past few years. The exodus from our great cities like Boston, New York and Chicago has been something remarkable, and instead of decreasing, this tendency seems to be on the increase, not so much from any apparent necessity as from a well-grounded universal longing for the part of city residents to get back to nature.

One does not ordinarily associate a promise corporation like a railroad system with anything which pertains directly to the garden or the picturesque. The words "Garden Railroad" seem almost a contradiction in terms. Yet, in fact, the railroad more frequently remembered by its association with dust, soot and cinders, rather than anything which would breathe of the garden with its fragrance and welcome shade?

It is now some years since a few of the leading country districts of the country have given special attention to the erection of picturesque stations and beautifying of the adjacent grounds. The Pennsylvania, Old Colony and Boston & Maine systems have all done something along this line, but it has remained for the Boston & Albany Railroad to demonstrate the practical value of the scheme by long years of study and application, which have brought the plan far beyond the experimental stage. No more picturesque route can well be imagined than that over the Boston circuit of the Boston & Albany Railroad through what is universally considered the most beautiful residential district of Greater Boston. Such a trip, taken on some bright morning in spring or early summer, is an occasion long to be remembered, even when viewed solely from the vantage point of a car window. Taken more leisurely, in company with an experienced guide, and with frequent stops at the more important stations, it forms an event to be remembered from its purely pleasurable side, and valuable from the amount of information which the sight-seer obtains.

The history of the early days of station gardening, and how the Boston & Albany came to be the object lesson for many other railroads, is a familiar story which has often been told, but which, like all stories of achievement, never grows old by much repetition.

It was a little over twenty years ago that the baggage master of the Newtonville station, Mr. E. A. Richardson, having in his make-up both the gardener's instinct and for the beautiful, thought it not inconsistent with his duties as custodian of the station to beautify the adjacent grounds, which in common with most railroad property at that time were entirely barren

and uninviting from every point of view. The citizens of Newtonville encouraged this effort on the part of Mr. Richardson by supplying him with the necessary material for the furtherance of his work, and it was not long before the station grounds were so conspicuously improved as to be a matter of universal comment.

As might be expected, this form of improvement was brought to the attention of Professor Margaret of the Arnold Arboretum, one of the directors of the Albany board, with the result that a department having in charge the beautifying of suburban grounds was instituted, and Mr. Richardson placed at the head of it. From this small beginning has resulted a system of garden now embracing over sixty stations along the line of the Boston & Albany; forty outside of those on the circuit, so called. For the benefit of those of our readers who are not entirely familiar with the circuit, and its opportunities for the development of this idea, a word regarding the Boston circuit may not be out of place.

The Boston to Boston circuit consists of a loop running from Boston outward by the New Longwood, Brookline, Chestnut Hill, Newton Centre, Woodland to Riverdale, and returning to the city by the main line to the city. The stations, Brighton and Allston back to Boston again. This loop traverses one of the most beautiful districts of suburban Boston, through a stretch of country varied in its make-up by wooded hills and diversified natural conditions. Particularly is this true of the stretch chosen for the stations, thus making the extension of the original plan much easier and more capable of far larger results. Given a picturesque station, such as those which almost without exception grace these suburban points, and not far distant from the city, the station grounds, larger and with greater possibilities of development.

The plan pursued for the improvement of the station grounds has been called the "all the year round" plan, as distinguished from the "winter" plan, which is known as carpet gardening, that is, the planting of flowers which as soon as they die away, especially in the fall and winter months, leave nothing but barren heaps of dirt to mark what was once a spot of flowering beauty. Instead of the flowers, a great variety of shrubs, most of them hardy perennials, have been used. From the nature of our New England climate, it is impossible for us to have long stretches of turf embankment, such as are a feature of some of the English railroads. Neither are the garden plots at all satisfactory, except for a few months in spring and summer, but with shrubs and bushes, such as red dogwood, the wild rose, sweet fern, bayberry, sumach, woodbine, honeysuckle and lilac, a variety is afforded, which gives forth the greatest part of the year, and in many instances the bright red berry or the white snowdrop, or the peculiar red bark, throughout even the long New England winter, which usually leaves every thing in the way of tree and shrubbery absolutely dead and bare.

Add to this the abundant material afforded by native trees, birch, oak, spruce, willow, maple and forms of dwarf growth, and it will be readily seen that the gardener has at his disposal a variety of material which under the right conditions will give him a beautiful scene. The plan of Mr. Richardson has been to obscure all unsightly approaches to the railroad station, and, wherever possible, to surround the station itself with a bower of green, so as to make the station itself and the surrounding landscape a part of the scene.

Take, for instance, the station at Allston. The approach reminds one of one of the many winding paths through some park of the great Metropolitan system, and it is with surprise that the visitor finds himself, almost without warning, entering under a vine-clad porte cochere, which is an artistic feature of the station. Farly overgrown by Virginia creeper and woodbine, this station possesses almost every feature of attraction which one could imagine. Not only have the station grounds been used in profusion, but the natural resources of the place have permitted of calling into play lofty elms, maples and other hardy trees, which have lent their many years of growth to the carrying out of this plan of beautifying the grounds. Not only the station grounds, but the grounds leading to it, have been beautified, but as the railroad runs parallel to the main street of the town for some distance, rows of trees have been planted, and the railroad fences covered with creepers of various kinds, which form in spring and summer a beautiful screen, and in winter a green turf, blossoming hedge and leafy bower of the prettiest suburban towns on the road.

At Newton Highlands one is impressed with the value of this plan for screening surrounding property from the station. The accompanying landscape is a neighboring house almost entirely obscured by the rich and beautiful growth of shrubbery and trees planted along the limits of the station yard.

At Chestnut Hill one finds almost ideal conditions for the carrying out of this plan of trees and shrubbery, which have been met in a way fully equal to the opportunity afforded. As the railroad passes the station at a point marking a distinct depression, there is noted at the elevation on the station side of the track a group of beautiful trees of many years' growth, which towers far above the mass of sunnyside and dogwood, giving one the impression that the station is nestled in the midst of a lovely park. All signs of the proximity of a railroad are lost sight of entirely on the approach, and it is not until one finds himself fairly on the platform that the rails themselves become a reality. The approach to this station is in some respects similar to that at Allston, but each has its own natural characteristics, this one at Chestnut Hill showing the wonderful effect of the proper development of tree planting as a means of station beautifying.

At Woodland one meets with almost ideal conditions. A flat stretch of country, a small but an artistic station, which one comes upon almost unexpectedly, and which seems set down in a virgin wilderness, so surrounded by the green turf, blossoming hedge and leafy bower of willow.

Perhaps the most beautiful effect of street planting in connection with station decoration is found at Wellesley Hills. On the bank side of the line, which divides the railroad property from the highway, shrubs of almost every description grow in great profusion. Although they have in a measure been cultivated by the careful gardener, yet their natural conditions have been taken into account, so that they practically grow in the same luxuriance as in nature. A noble row of elms and maples, with here and there a walnut tree, forms a continuous line of shade, the combination of shrubbery and tree growth so perfectly to obscure the railroad track from the boulevard. Whenever possible, every bit of natural scenery beauty has been

turned to good account by the ever watchful gardener. It may be that a tiny lake, fed by a sudden spring, is brought into the general scheme, thereby adding an element of unusual beauty to the general plan.

Here and there the construction of the road, in order to avoid grade crossings, has made necessary ugly cuts in the solid rock. These have been skillfully obscured as far as possible by shrubs and vines native to rocky soil, and which seem to thrive in the shallow foothold which they have in the crevices of the rock and on the top of the embankment.

The management of this department of the Boston & Albany have also shown their wisdom in taking into account the fact that a railroad station is an all-year-around institution and not simply a summer-vacation affair. For this reason, wherever possible, the shrubbery has been so arranged that even after the leaves have fallen and winter has commenced in good earnest, there shall be a touch of color, and not infrequently the red or white berries appear in sufficient profusion to add an inviting touch of color to the wintry landscape. Especially is this noticeable during the snowfalls of early winter, when the red berries and the white carpet covering the earth form a contrast as exceptional as it is beautiful.

When one takes into account that in order to beautify these grounds the extreme conditions of climate have to be considered in addition to long periods of drought, to smoke, cinders and soil formation in many instances unfavorable, it becomes after all, as some one has said, "the survival of the toughest" among the forms of vegetation which must finally be used in any scheme of permanent beautifying.

In preparation for this work, Mr. Richardson has what might have been called an outdoor course in shrubbery, in the Arnold Arboretum,

Harvester Talks to Farmers—No. 3.

The Question of Quality, and how it is attained in the International Harvesting Machines.

THE International line of harvesting machines are heavily endorsed by nine-tenths of the grain and grass growing farmers of America.

Not because farmers could not get some other machine if they so desired, but simply because as careful, discriminating buyers they have deliberately chosen this line.

Their choice is based on experience. They have found that these machines are better constructed, and therefore will give better service and longer service than ordinary agricultural machinery. And the explanation of the high quality of the International line is just as simple. It rests upon superior facilities and a far-sighted policy of management.

The manufacturers of the International line of harvesting machines are not only careful to secure these materials at first cost, but they are also careful to secure the average output is 35,000 feet per day. On both tracts, tramways, canals, and every modern facility for the economical handling of logs and lumber are provided.

The entire output of both tracts, after it has been properly air-dried, is used by the plants of the International Harvester Company in manufacturing harvesting machines and agricultural implements.

But the most important feature of the company's lumber operations is this: All timber is cut in strict accordance with the rules of forestry. Instead of denuding the land, only ripe trees with well-matured, hardened wood are cut, and the greatest care is exercised to protect and preserve all young timber, so that by the time the best timber is once selected from this vast tract of 82,000 acres—even at the rate of 30,000 feet per year, the present consumption of the International factories—a new supply will have grown to a commercial size.

In other words, the company by this far-sighted policy has secured practically a perpetual supply of the lumber necessary for the manufacture of the harvesting machines used by the American farmer. It is in position for the next

which by the nature of its very existence is under obligation to show under cultivation every form of tree and shrub which can be grown in New England. From this vast object picture one could very readily select just the forms of growth which would best ornament a certain locality, whether it be during the time of full verdure or at the time when nothing but the leafless branches would be in view.

A few years ago, when the Boston and Albany became an integral part of the New York Central, much concern was felt among those who had watched the Albany development, in regard to the future of station gardening, but with its usual foresight and regard for the best interests of its system, the new management has not in the least interfered with this important department of the Boston and Albany, but rather increased its usefulness in the many ways possible by the facilities at the disposal of so great a corporation.

We may, perhaps, be laid open to a charge of partiality in spending so much time upon the stations of Greater Boston's suburbs instead of following the work from terminals to terminals. What we have said regarding the Boston circuit will apply in a great measure to the inter-terminal stations between South Framingham, Worcester and Springfield, and thence to Albany, as gradually every station of importance, wherever the natural conditions will permit, is falling in line with this general plan, which has been so fully demonstrated and has made such a marked success of the circuit.

What the future of this work will be no one can tell. Already the great railroads of the country are devoting more and more time to the problem. In fact, it has become necessary for every road entering to the suburban residents to furnish him with a picturesque station, and with grounds equally attractive, in order to entice him to that location for a permanent residence. It may be said, therefore, that looked on merely as a matter of investment, the Boston and Albany built more wisely than it knew, when in a sense it pioneered this particular form of railroad development.

Whenever a conspicuous success has been made, it is always well to discover if possible just wherein lies the secret of achievement. In this instance, the remarkable development of station grounds has been due largely to the fact that the department having the work in charge has been allowed to lay its plans and carry out its policy in the most natural and effective way, without being retarded by suggestions or rules which would prevent the exercise of good judgment and common sense by the responsible parties.

In what has been said, there has been no thought of extolling any particular railroad above its fellow-workers along this line, for volumes might be written of the magnificent flower beds of the Pennsylvania system, the beautiful station approaches along the famous North Shore, where prize money is awaiting the gardener in the competitive contest, of the Swedish roads abroad, which are doing much in this particular line, and the well-known English railroads, which are noted the world around for their magnificent turf embankments. But in outlining what has been accomplished in a comparatively circumscribed area by what is now one portion of a vast railroad system, we trust there has been brought before our readers not only a sense of what has already been accomplished, but also the necessity for supplying a proper public spirit, which shall ensure its continuance as a permanent feature of railroad development in New England but throughout our entire country.

Francis Valley consist of 60,000 acres which the International Company owns in southeastern Missouri, and 22,000 acres leased in northeastern Arkansas, both a portion of the reclaimed "sunk" land districts.

The Missouri lands are near the new town of Deering, which the International Company is making a model lumber town, with all the advantages and comforts of modern life in the midst of the forests. The land is heavily timbered with oak, ash, elm, hickory, cottonwood, cypress, gum, hackberry and maple. At the principal mill here—shown in the illustration—a daily average of 44,000 feet of lumber is cut, and 125 men are employed at the mill and in the timber. On the Arkansas lands the mill is at Truman; 85 men are employed and

generation, at least, to secure lumber of the highest quality and is absolutely independent of fluctuating markets, and, at the same time, by conserving the forests is not only reaping a benefit for itself and its customers, but is serving the best interests of the country at large.

Of course, we realize that "when we get down to brass tacks," as the saying is, the purchaser of a harvesting machine, or of any other commodity, cares very little about how it is produced or where it is produced, or by whom it is produced—provided he gets what he wants at a fair price.

There's no sentiment about it one way or the other. But that "provided" means much to you as a purchaser.

The old proverb has it that "you can't make a silk purse from a sow's ear."

Neither can you make a high-grade article from low-grade material.

The International Harvester Co. is a manufacturing company of the highest grade, of the best quality; more than that, of a better grade and higher quality than they could by any possibility manufacture if they did not have the exceptional facilities with which they have surrounded themselves, for both the production of raw material and the completion of the finished product.

And by the same token they are putting a higher quality into their product than any other manufacturer can put into his and depend upon the uncertain, unstable markets for materials.

This question of quality is at the base of the American farmer's success. It is because he has always striven for better things—for better live stock, for increased fertility in his land, for finer fruit, for better methods—that he has been able to give a new meaning to the word agriculture.

And it is because he has given quality first consideration in purchasing supplies that he has made money. We ask your careful consideration of these facts, and of the advantages offered you in the International line. They mean a saving of money, a saving of time and worry, and a satisfaction which you can not obtain elsewhere.

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See Harvester Talks No. 1 and No. 2 in previous issues of this paper.

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